

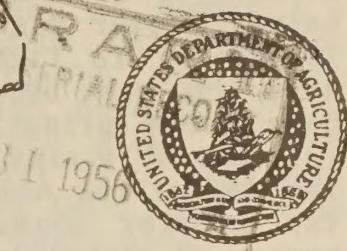
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NORTH CAROLINA



COOPERATIVE CROP REPORTING SERVICE

Farm Report



NO. 214

RALEIGH, N. C.

AUGUST 20, 1956

RECORD CORN YIELD IN PROSPECT SECOND LARGEST PRODUCTION

Based on condition and probable yield reports from growers as of August 1, a corn crop of 72,853,000 bushels is forecast. The current indicated production is about 3 percent more than the 70,482,000 bushels produced in 1955, and is 16 percent above the 1945-1954 average crop of 62,535,000 bushels. If the indicated production is realized, it will be the second largest of record, exceeded only in 1950 when production amounted to 74,184,000 bushels.

The average yield per acre for the 1956 crop is a record and is indicated at 37.0 bushels, three bushels above the previous record set in 1955. The State's estimated 1,969,000 acres for harvest is the smallest since 1874.

Prospects are very good for a large
(Continued on Page 2)

RECORD SOYBEAN PRODUCTION INDICATED

A record 7,128,000 bushels of soybeans is forecast, based on reports from growers as of August 1. A crop of this size exceeds the 1955 production by slightly more than 2 million bushels and will exceed the previous record set in 1951 by about 1.9 million bushels.

Indicated yield per acre based on condition reports is the highest of record and is estimated at 18.0 bushels. This compares with 17.0 bushels produced in 1951, 1952 and 1954. The 1955 yield of 15.5 bushels was lower than in recent years as a result of damage wrought by the hurricanes.

Most growers have good stands and growth of the crop is normal or above. Rainfall and temperatures during July were almost ideal for soybeans.

RAINS DURING JULY IMPROVE TOBACCO PROSPECTS

Under much more favorable weather conditions than prevailed during June, tobacco has shown a general improvement since the first of July. Based on growers' reports as of August 1, prospective yields have increased from 75 to 125 pounds per acre over those reported a month earlier. Type 11 was up 100 pounds to an estimated yield of 1275 pounds per acre, Type 12 rose 125 pounds to reach 1575 pounds, and Type 13 was up 75 pounds to a tie with Type 12 for the same expected yield of 1575 pounds. Burley tobacco, Type 31, also had a 100 pound higher prospective yield to push its forecast to 1950 pounds.

Increased prospective yields bring the estimated production of flue-cured tobacco up to 846,975,000 pounds, a reduction below the record production of 978,775,000 pounds for 1955 of about 13.5 percent, which replaces the 20 percent decrease expected as of July 1.

(Continued on Page 2)

COTTON REPORT AS OF AUGUST 1, 1956

The first cotton production forecast is for a crop of 320,000 (500-pounds gross weight) bales. This first estimate is based upon August 1 reports from growers, ginners and others throughout the cotton growing areas of the State. If the forecast materializes, a crop of this size would be 31,000 bales less than the 351,000 bales harvested in 1955 and 137,000 bales less than the 10-year (1945-54) average. Based upon cotton in cultivation on July 1 and average abandonment, it is estimated that 459,000 acres will be for harvest --

(Continued on Page 3)

CORN (*Continued*)

production of corn in North Carolina. Rainfall over most of the State came frequently in light to heavy showers at a time most beneficial to the crop. Corn grown primarily commercially in the Coastal Plains area was in or near the tasselling and silking stage when the heavier showers came. A large number of counties now have sufficient moisture in the ground to finish the crop to maturity. There are a few localized areas that remain on the drier side and will need some additional rainfall to insure above average yields. The record yield primarily results from increased acreage planted with hybrid seed and is estimated at 70 percent for 1956. Other factors contributing to the high yield is mostly sufficient moisture on August 1 and high applications of fertilizer and nitrates. The potential yield effects of the increased plantings with hybrid seed was not attained in 1953 and 1954 due to drought conditions, and 1955 yields were upset by damaging hurricanes.

TOBACCO (*Continued*)

At a yield of 1950 pounds per acre, production of Burley tobacco would amount to 19,110,000 pounds, an increase of 2.6 percent over the 18,-620,000 pounds harvested last year. According to the present outlook, total production of all types of tobacco would be 866,085,000 pounds, or just a little over 13 percent under the record crop of 997,395,000 produced last year.

The table below gives the expected yield and production of North Carolina tobacco by types for 1956.

TYPE	YIELD	PRODUCTION
Type 11	1,275	289,425,000
Type 12	1,575	444,150,000
Type 13	1,575	113,400,000
TOTAL FLUE-CURED	1,458	846,975,000

The total U. S. flue-cured crop is estimated at 1,276,810,000 pounds. This is 14 percent less than the 1955 crop of 1,483,045,000 and is about the same as the 1945-1954 average crop of 1,270,897,000 pounds.

The U. S. burley crop is estimated at 476,467,000 pounds. This is 1.4

percent more than the 1955 crop of 469,977,000 and is 18.4 percent less than the 1945-1954 average production of 583,853,000 pounds.

SORGHUM GRAIN ACREAGE DOWN 10 PERCENT

The 1956 sorghum grain crop is estimated at 80,000 acres, a reduction of 10 percent from the 89,000 acres harvested for grain in 1955.

Production as of August 1, is estimated to be 2,160,000 bushels, based on an expected average yield per acre of 27.0 bushels. With a smaller acreage and a yield of 27.0 bushels, this year's production will be 13 percent below 1955.

WHEAT, OATS AND BARLEY SET RECORD YIELD AND PRODUCTION

Each of the small grain crops of wheat, oats and barley made record yields and production in 1956.

The yield per acre of wheat is estimated at 25.5 bushels. This is 2.5 bushels more than the old record of 23.0 bushels produced in 1951. Production is estimated at 9,027,000 bushels which is also a record, having exceeded the 1951 previous record production by 11,000 bushels.

The estimated oats yield of 40.0 bushels is 4.0 bushels more than the old record yield of 36.0 bushels produced in 1954. This year's record production of 19,120,000 bushels exceeds the previous record of 16,380,000 bushels produced in 1954, by 17 percent.

The 1956 yield per acre of barley is estimated at 37.0 bushels compared to the previous record high yield of 34.5 bushels made in 1953. The current estimated production of 2,183,000 is compared with the previous record production established in 1954 when 1,922,000 bushels were produced.

HAY CROPS IMPROVE DURING JULY

Based on reports from growers as of August 1, production from the 1956 "All Hay" crop is forecast at 1,-238,000 tons -- 29,000 tons less than was produced in 1955 and 24,000 tons below the 1945-54 average. Production estimated in tons is as follows: Alfalfa 168,000; Clover and Timothy

(Continued on Page 6)

COTTON (*Continued*)

the smallest acreage since records began in 1866.

Lint yield per acre is estimated at 335 pounds, compared with 350 last year and the 10-year average of 321 pounds.

The crop got off to a rather slow start this year because of unfavorable weather. Reseeding requirements were heavy in all sections of the State and stands are more irregular than usual, especially in Piedmont counties where low temperatures and dry weather prevailed until late in the season. The crop is from two to three weeks late in most areas.

Weather conditions during July were not too favorable for cotton. Frequent rainfall, varying considerably among areas, and average or below normal temperatures, were ideal for rank plant growth and heavy weevil

infestation. The reported infestation is almost double that of August 1 a year ago, and control this year is said to be very difficult, some fields still showing a high percent of infestation even after eight or ten dustings. Boll weevil could very well prove as damaging to this year's crop as were last year's hurricanes.

UNITED STATES

The total United States cotton crop is estimated at 13,552,000 bales, compared with 14,721,000 bales harvested last season and a 10-year average crop of 13,098,000 bales. Total production is lower primarily due to acreage reductions. Forecasted yields are lower than those harvested last year in all cotton states except in Tennessee, Louisiana, Missouri, New Mexico, Arizona and California. Details of the report, by States, follow:

State	Acres in cultivation July 1, 1956 less 1946-55 average aban- donment ^{1/}	August 1 Condition			Lint Yield Per Harvested Acre			Production ^{3/} 500-lb. gross wt. bales		
		Aver- age 1945- 54	1955 crop	1956 crop	Aver- age 1945- 54	1955 crop	1956 Indic. ^{2/}	Aver- age 1945- 54	1955 crop	1956 Indi- cated Aug. 1
		(1000)	(Percent)			(Pounds)			(1000 Bales)	
N. C.	459	78	89	87	321	350	335	457	351	320
S. C.	691	74	78	83	301	375	372	656	572	535
Ga.	859	71	80	75	252	376	363	675	701	650
Tenn.	545	77	87	92	359	523	528	564	623	600
Ala.	990	73	83	77	281	478	376	880	1,045	775
Miss.	1,604	78	89	86	340	570	500	1,656	2,023	1,670
Mo.	366	77	87	96	367	502	557	362	410	425
Ark.	1,369	77	91	90	339	545	535	1,382	1,663	1,525
La.	585	74	81	85	336	454	468	586	582	570
Okla.	758	72	86	81	154	281	253	356	463	400
Tex.	6,910	75	79	73	194	281	250	3,518	4,039	3,600
N. Mex.	182	91	90	94	526	688	738	237	266	280
Ariz.	377	93	89	97	656	981	1,050	559	728	825
Calif.	771	93	87	96	659	774	828	1,164	1,205	1,330
States ^{4/}	61	78	85	80	284	383	370	47	50	47
U. S.	16,527	77	84	83	283	417	394	13,098	14,721	13,552

^{1/} From natural causes. ^{2/} On acres in cultivation July 1 less 1946-55 average abandonment. ^{3/} Production ginned and to be ginned. A 500-pound bale contains about 480 net pounds of lint. ^{4/} Virginia, Florida, Illinois, Kentucky, Kansas and Nevada.

**UNITED STATES
ESTIMATED ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION OF CROPS, AUGUST 1, 1956 WITH COMPARISONS**

CROPS	UNIT	ACREAGE (IN THOUSANDS)		YIELD (IN UNITS)		PRODUCTION (IN THOUSANDS)	
		Average 1945-54	Harvested 1955 ^{L/}	Indicated 1956	Average 1945-54	1955	Indicated 1945-54
Corn, All.....	Bu.	83,260	79,900	77,596	37.1	40.6	3,084,389
Wheat, Winter.....	Bu.	47,810	33,660	35,372	18.3	20.9	3,241,536
Wheat, All.....	Bu.	67,192	47,255	50,466	17.1	19.8	3,143,779
Oats.....	Bu.	38,912	39,138	35,427	34.1	38.3	2,873,690
Barley.....	Bu.	10,443	14,553	12,867	26.6	27.5	1,148,289
Rye.....	Bu.	1,714	2,092	1,724	12.5	14.2	1,327,496
 TOBACCO:							
Flue-Cured.....	Lbs.	1,049.2	990.7	880.2	1,214	1,497	1,270,897
Burley.....	Lbs.	447.0	310.4	311.9	1,310	1,514	469,977
All Types.....	Lbs.	1,726.1	1,496.7	1,379.8	1,236	1,448	2,195,788
 Cotton.....							
Sorghum Grain.....		2/ 7,460	16,928	16,527	283	417	13,098
Irish Potatoes, All 4/	Cwt.	1,525	12,839	11,362	18.6	18.8	141,334
Sweetpotatoes 4/.....	Cwt.	378.4	1,414	1,402	149	161	226,360
					52.8	61.4	20,051
						55.9	20,946
 Soybeans, Alone All Purposes.....	-	14,279	19,710	21,959	-	-	14,721
Soybeans, For Beans.....	Bu.	12,698	18,668	20,953	20.0	19.9	13,552
Peanuts, Alone All Purposes.....	Bu.	2,902	1,898	1,868	-	-	241,100
Peanuts, Picked & Threshed..	Lbs.	2,387	1,691	1,509	790	925	189,676
							227,046
							230,277
							16,032
 HAY:							
All Alfalfa.....	Tons	74,382	75,549	75,595	1.39	1.49	103,648
Clover & Timothy 5/	Tons	18,941	28,432	29,719	2.19	2.08	41,315
Lespedeza.....	Tons	20,910	16,506	15,316	1.41	1.46	29,509
Pasture, Condition.....	%	6,046	4,063	4,425	1.03	1.16	6,354
							79
							112,782
							59,195
							24,174
							20,624
							4,749
							708
							76
							70
 Peaches, All.....	Bu.	-	-	-	-	-	66,989
Apples, Commercial 6/.....	Bu.	-	-	-	-	-	51,827
Pears, All.....	Bu.	-	-	-	-	-	105,920
Grapes, All.....	Tons	-	-	-	-	-	30,230
Pecans, All.....	Lbs.	-	-	-	-	-	27,622
							30,475
							3,008
							29,620
							146,860
							169,880

^{1/} Revised -- based on 1954 Census and other data.
^{2/} Yield per acre in Lbs. -- Production in 500 lb. bales.
^{3/} Acres in cultivation July 1, 1956. less 1946-55 average abandonment from natural causes. Production in 500 lb. bales.

^{4/} Averages 1949-54.

^{5/} Excludes Sweet Clover and Lespedeza Hay.

^{6/} Estimates of the commercial crop refer to total production of apples in commercial apple areas of each state.

^{7/} For some states in certain years production includes some quantities unharvested on account of economic conditions.

NORTH CAROLINA
ESTIMATED ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION OF CROPS, AUGUST 1, 1956 WITH COMPARISONS

CROPS	UNIT	ACREAGE (IN THOUSANDS)			YIELD (IN UNITS)		PRODUCTION (IN THOUSANDS)				
		Average 1945-54	Harvested 1955 <i>1/</i>	Indicated 1956	Average 1945-54	1955	Indicated 1956	Average 1945-54	1955	Indicated 1956	
Corn, All.....	Bu.	2,188	2,073	1,969	28.6	34.0	37.0	62,535	70,482	72,853	
Wheat, Winter.....	Bu.	392	319	354	17.9	21.5	25.5	7,028	6,858	9,027	
Oats.....	Bu.	348	460	478	31.4	33.0	40.0	10,964	15,180	19,120	
Barley.....	Bu.	40	59	59	28.5	37.0	14.5	1,166	1,652	2,183	
Rye.....	Bu.	21	24	28	12.8	13.5	12.8	271	324	406	
TOBACCO:	All.....	Lbs.	710.4	662.8	590.8	1,229	1,505	1,466	871,285	997,395	866,085
	Type 11.....	Lbs.	272.1	255.0	227.0	1,129	1,310	1,275	306,828	334,050	289,425
	Type 12.....	Lbs.	341.3	317.0	282.0	1,288	1,625	1,575	438,150	515,125	444,150
	Type 13.....	Lbs.	85.8	81.0	72.0	1,258	1,600	1,575	107,702	129,600	113,400
	All Flue-Cured.....	Lbs.	699.2	653.0	581.0	1,499	1,458	1,458	852,680	978,775	846,975
	Type 31, Burley.....	Lbs.	11.2	9.8	9.8	1,650	1,900	1,950	18,605	18,620	19,110
Cotton.....		<i>2/</i>	545	480	3/ 459	321	350	335	457	351	320
Sorghum Grain.....		-	26	89	26.2	28.0	27.0	675	2,492	2,160	
Irish Potatoes, All <i>4/</i>		Cwt.	48	37	36	93	77	77	3,430	2,766	
Sweetpotatoes <i>4/</i>		Cwt.	46.5	40.0	59	60	59	2,739	2,400	2,360 <i>5/</i>	
Soybeans, Alone All Purposes.....	-	386	430	516	15.2	15.5	18.0	4,049	5,068	7,128	
Soybeans, For Beans.....	Bu.	263	327	396	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Peanuts, Alone All Purposes.....	-	258	198	204	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Peanuts, Picked and Threshed.....	Lbs.	244	190	196	1,218	1,075	1,500	286,900	204,250	294,000	
Hay:	All.....	Tons	1,253	1,154	1,145	1.01	1.10	1.08	1,262	1,267	1,238
Clover and Timothy <i>5/</i>	Tons	105	105	102	1.12	1.20	1.15	118	126	117	
Alfalfa.....	Tons	48	80	84	2.04	2.10	2.00	95	168	168	
Lespedeza.....	Tons	505	391	407	1.02	1.05	1.00	518	411	407	
Pasture, Condition.....	%	-	-	-	-	-	-	78	83	81	
Peaches, All.....	Bu.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Apples, Commercial <i>6/</i>	Bu.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Pears, All.....	Bu.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Grapes, All.....	Tons	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Pecans, All.....	Lbs.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

1/ Revised -- based on 1954 Census and other data.

2/ Yield per acre in Lbs. -- Production in 500 lb. gross weight bales.

3/ Acres in cultivation July 1, 1956 less 1946-55 average abandonment from natural causes. Production in 500 lb. bales.

4/ Averages 1949-54.

5/ Excludes sweetclover and lespedeza hay.

6/ Estimates of commercial crop refer to total production in commercial apple areas.

7/ 1955 crop almost a complete failure because of spring freeze.

HAY (Continued)

117,000; Lespedeza 407,000; Soybean 92,000; Peanut 144,000; Grain 200,000; and other kinds 110,000.

Hay yield per acre by kinds on August 1 are estimated in tons as follows: Alfalfa 2.00; Clover-Timothy 1.15; Lespedeza 1.00; Soybeans 1.15; Peanuts .80; Grain 1.10; and other kinds 1.00. The "All Hay" average yield per acre is esdimated at 1.08 tons compared with 1.10 in 1955 and 1.01 for the 10-year average.

Hay prospects improved for all "kinds" during July excepting Grain hay which has been harvested. Frequent light to heavy rainfall during July resulted in improved conditions on August 1. Growing conditions have been very favorable for lespedeza, soybeans and peanuts.

IRISH POTATO PRODUCTION DOWN

Production of the Irish potato crop covering the late spring, early summer, and late summer acreage is estimated at 2,766 cwt. on August 1. This compares with 3,430 cwt. produced in 1955. Growers are expected to harvest from all groups 77 (100 pound) bags per acre in 1956 compared to 93 bags in 1955. The late spring crop which has been harvested is estimated to have produced 90 bags compared with 107 bags in 1955. The early summer crop likewise has been harvested and yield per acre is estimated at 54 bags compared to 70 bags in 1955. The late summer crop which is grown in the northwest mountain section of the State remains to be harvested and the probable yield per acre is estimated at 75 bags compared with 88 bags in 1955.

SWEETPOTATO PRODUCTION

EXPECTED BELOW AVERAGE

The N. C. sweetpotato production, as of August 1, is estimated at 2,360,000 cwt. compared with 2,400,000 cwt. in 1955 and 2,739,000 cwt. for the 10-year average. Current prospects point to an average yield of 59 cwt. per acre, compared with 60 cwt. in 1955 and 59 cwt. for the 10-year average. Showers during July improved yield prospects and farmers expect to harvest 40,000 acres, the same as was harvested in 1955 although 5,000 acres short of the 1945-54 average.

APPLE CROP DIMINISHES

Based on reports from growers as of August 1, the estimated 1956 apple crop for North Carolina at 1,400,000 bushels is short of the July forecast by 100,000 bushels. The lower estimate is the result of dry weather in many parts of the main producing areas and also a closer appraisal of the crop as the greater part of it approaches closer to maturity. The expected production is short of the 1954 crop (the '55 crop was a near failure) by about 16 percent, but it is 13 percent above the 1945-54 ten-year average of 1,239,000 bushels.

IMPROVED PEACH PROSPECTS

Favorable weather over the past month has been very beneficial to maturing peaches, and prospective production for North Carolina is now estimated at 900,000 bushels -- 60,000 bushels more than the 840,000 bushels expected as of July 1. As compared with the complete failure of the 1955 crop, this year's expected production would amount to 82 percent of the 1,100,000 bushels produced in 1954 and 58 percent of the ten-year average production of 1,559,000 bushels for 1945-54.

FAIR PECAN CROP EXPECTED

Production of pecans in North Carolina for 1956 estimated as of August 1 to reach 1,950,000 pounds. Last year's crop following the late March freeze was almost a failure and amounted to only 350,000 pounds. If this year's forecast materializes, it will be almost double the 1954 crop of 1,000,000 pounds (short also on account of Hurricane Hazel) but it will fall below the 1945-54 ten-year average production of 2,254,000 pounds by about 13.5 percent. This year it is estimated that 1,600,000 pounds of the production will be from improved varieties and that 350,000 pounds will come from seedlings.

UNITED STATES

August 1 condition of pecans points to a crop of 169.9 million pounds in 1956 compared with 146.9 million pounds in 1955 and the 1945-54 average of 137.8 million pounds.

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR JULY, 1956

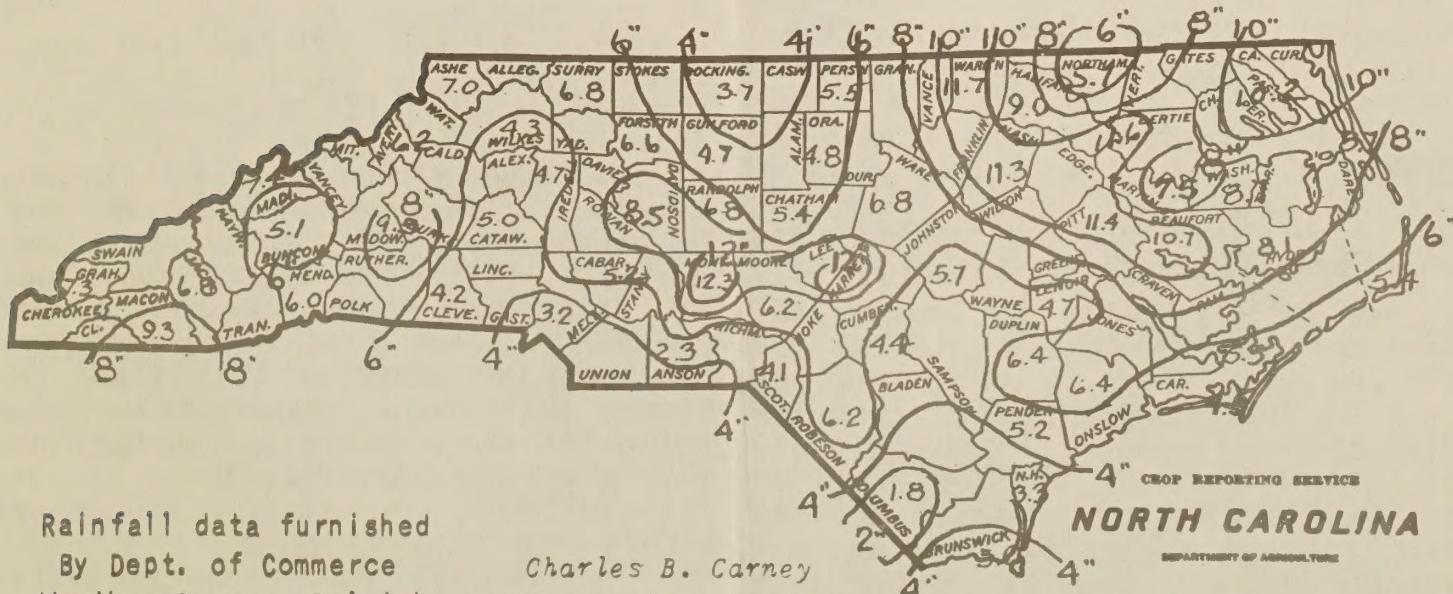
The principal feature of July weather in North Carolina was the nearly continuous presence of a weak weather front across or very near the State. The front actually lay within some portion of North Carolina on more than half the days of July, and in nearby states on several additional days. North of the front the air was usually a few degrees cooler than to the south, having come from over the northern United States, Canada, or the north Atlantic Ocean. Warm, moist air to the south of the front was usually moving from over the Gulf of Mexico or the Caribbean Sea. The presence over North Carolina of the front, or dividing line between the air from the two regions, led to greater-than-usual thundershower activity over the State during July.

In all parts of North Carolina, the frequent occurrence of thundershowers during July prevented any long rainless periods such as have occurred during the summer months of other recent years. No day passed without rain in the State; indeed, some localities had rain nearly every day. The amount of rain which fell, however, was just as variable from place to place as in any typical summer. Thundershowers yielded mere sprinkles in some

localities, while other areas were deluged. Rains up to nine inches or more fell at places in Moore and Montgomery Counties on the 19th, and unofficial reports were received of as much as 13 inches of rain in that area. Rainfall totals reported for the month ranged from less than an inch at the Research Station north of Whiteville to more than thirteen inches at the station east of Rocky Mount.

July was warm in North Carolina, but most places escaped the extreme heat that sometimes comes when all-day sunshine persists for several days. Frequent afternoon thundershowers stopped the rising temperatures early enough to prevent very high readings most days at most places. A few stations did reach 100 degrees or higher on one or more days near the first or last of July, but readings even in the upper nineties were rare in most parts of the State. Unusually cool weather was even more of a rarity during July; daily minimum temperatures were near seventy degrees most mornings in those parts of the State not affected by mountains or sea coast. The last morning of the month, however, was quite cool for the time of year, dropping below sixty degrees at some stations.

INCHES OF RAINFALL FOR JULY, 1956



Rainfall data furnished
By Dept. of Commerce
Weather Bureau, Raleigh

Charles B. Carney
State Climatologist

FARM REPORT

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AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
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PEANUT PRODUCTION INDICATED 44 PERCENT ABOVE 1955

Based on reports from growers as of August 1, peanut production is forecast at 294,000,000 pounds -- 44 percent above the 1955 production. If this production materializes it will be the largest since 1952 when a little over 300 million pounds were produced.

The 1955 Tar Heel peanut crop for picking and threshing is estimated at 196,000 acres -- an increase of 6,000 acres over last year, but 20 percent below the 10-year average acreage.

Condition indications are for a yield of 1500 pounds per acre, compared with 1075 pounds last year and 1,218 pounds for the 10-year average. The low yield of 1955 was primarily caused by heavy rains that preceded and followed the hurricanes.

RECORD EGG PRODUCTION FOR JULY

Egg production in July is estimated at 130 million -- a new high for the month and about 17 million above the 1955 previous record high production. The July production represents a decrease of about 7 million eggs from June and is somewhat less than the usual decline. Temperatures were about normal to below during most of July which was favorable for a higher rate of lay. The average number of layers on hand during July is estimated at 8,302,000 which compares with 7,244,000 for the same month a year earlier. Production per 100 layers is estimated at 1,569 which is the highest of record for the month exceeding the old record high for July of 1955 by about 1 percent.